



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 18, 2010

FAMILY / THEATRE / MUSIC EVENT LISTINGS

**SING OUT LOUD
AT THE BIG!WORLD!FUN! FAMILY SHOW
AUGUST 28 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Children admitted FREE to one-hour programs for families.

Make crafts before the show.

LeRoy Villanueva, one of four LA Opera artists in the company's interactive "Sing Out Loud!" program, says kids and parents who've experienced the show often come out saying, "This is opera?" The program, to be performed on the Ford family series at 10 a.m., Saturday, August 28, is anything but stuffy. "It's all about having fun," says Villanueva.

The music itself is irresistible even if you know nothing about opera, or who composed it or what that aria title in Italian means. "Sing Out Loud!" will include such staples as the Toreador Song from *Carmen* — an ego-swelling boast from a triumphant bullfighter — and a foray into music theater — which can be thought of as American opera — with "Oh What a Beautiful Morning" from *Oklahoma* and "I Feel Pretty" from *West Side Story*.

Excerpts from *The Girl of the Golden West* show opera as theatre, a story told through music. In fact the plot could be a Western movie: Local sheriff wants to marry female saloon owner, but she loves a bandit on the run. The two play poker. If she wins, the bandit goes free. If the sheriff wins, she'll marry him.

Kids and parents can make crafts during pre-show activities led by staff from the Autry National Center beginning at 9:00 a.m.

"Sing Out Loud!" is the final event in the 2010 Big!World!Fun! Family Series presented by the Ford Theatre Foundation. The hour-long performances in the shaded outdoor Ford Amphitheatre are designed for the enjoyment of children ages 4 to 10, parents and grandparents. Booklists related to each series event, provided by the Los Angeles County Library, are available at www.FordTheatres.org; click on "Family" under "Events" on the homepage, then click on "More Info" for the event that interests you.

Admission to all events is FREE for children and \$5 for adults. Parking is \$1 per vehicle. To reserve/purchase tickets, call the Ford box office at **323 461-3673** or visit www.FordTheatres.org.

The Big!World!Fun! Family Series is sponsored by Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, City of Los Angeles 4th District Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Sony Pictures Entertainment and ABC7. The Autry National Center and The Los Angeles County Library are series partners.

Big!World!Fun! family events are part of the Ford Amphitheatre 2010 Season, a multi-disciplinary arts series produced by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission in cooperation with Los Angeles County-based arts organizations. For complete season information log on to www.FordTheatres.org.

The **Ford Theatre Foundation**, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1994, supports the performing arts and education activities that are presented at the Ford Theatres. The Foundation's Community Bridges program builds audiences by encouraging and facilitating participation in the theatres' programs and brings Ford performers to youth and social service centers based in Asian Pacific Islander and Latino communities throughout Los Angeles County. In addition to presenting the Big!World!Fun! Family Series, the Foundation produces the free, interactive J.A.M. (Jazzed and Motivated) Sessions during the Ford's summer season.

The **Los Angeles County Arts Commission**, Laura Zucker, Executive Director, provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines for the largest county in the United States, encompassing 88 municipalities. In addition to programming the John Anson Ford Theatres, the Arts Commission provides leadership and staffing to support the regional blueprint for arts education, *Arts for All*; administers a grants program that funds more than 300 nonprofit arts organizations annually; oversees the County's Civic Art Program for capital projects; funds the largest arts internship program in the country in conjunction with the Getty Foundation; and supports the Los Angeles County Cultural Calendar on ExperienceLA.com. The Commission also produces free community programs, including the L.A. Holiday Celebration broadcast nationally, and a year-round music program that funds more than 40 free concerts each year in public sites. The 2010-11 President of the Arts Commission is Ronald D. Rosen. For more information please consult the Arts Commission online press kit: <http://lacountyarts.org/page/pubnewspress>

THE FACTS

WHAT

"Sing Out Loud!" with artists from LA Opera

WHEN

Saturday, August 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Pre-show activities begin at 9:00 a.m. Families are advised to arrive early. Space is limited.

WHERE

Ford Amphitheatre

2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood, CA 90068

Just off the 101 (Hollywood) freeway across from Hollywood Bowl and south of Universal.

PLEASE NOTE:

The amphitheatre is outdoors and shaded, but remember your sunscreen and a hat.

On-site concessions are available.

HOW MUCH

Children FREE

Adults \$5

Reservations are strongly recommended.

PURCHASE/RESERVE TICKETS

323 461-3673

www.FordTheatres.org

There is a \$1.50 service charge for reserving children's tickets online.

PARKING

On-site, stacked parking costs \$1 per vehicle.

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